

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Hungary

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SUBJECT Hungarian Electricity Production in
Relation to Coal Reserves

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1. According to the Ten Year Plan for the production of electricity, only twelve percent of the entire power production will be covered by hydro-power stations and 88 percent by thermal power stations at the conclusion of the plan.
2. At a conference held in the planning bureau concerning the Five Year Plan of the state coal mines, it was calculated that the yearly coal requirements will have risen in 1954 to 16 million tons. For this purpose the present production of ten million tons will have to be greatly increased.
3. The coal reserve in Hungary is computed today at about 1,500 million tons, of which sixty percent is of much poorer quality than the pit coal now produced.
4. Although the Hungarian geologists expect to find 1,000 to 1,500 million tons above the reserves mentioned, the Hungarian coal production will find itself within the next ten years in an increasingly difficult position, on the one hand because of the poorer quality of the coal still to be worked, and on the other hand because the greater part of the reserves are under water.
5. Before the war, the coal production rose yearly by three percent. Owing to the intensive industrial development during the war, however, it rose by six percent. Under the present plans it must rise by eight percent yearly in order to meet requirements.
6. In connection with these difficulties, the following is being considered:
 - a. The building of hydro-power stations. By using all natural possibilities, the maximum yearly production is 600 to 1,000 million kilowatts.
 - b. Import of electricity from abroad. Preparations for this have already been started.

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